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Implementing The Tracking Network

poster ABSTRACT

Poster No. 6

TITLE

DATA EXCHANGE WITH PHIN-MS – HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

TRACK

Technology

OBJECTIVES

The National EPHTN has identified Public Health Information Network's Messaging System (PHIN-MS) as a candidate data sharing transport mechanism among EPHT grantees and partners. PHIN-MS is a component of the Maine Nedss Base System – however the installed version is limited to exchanging information between CDC and Maine. Maine EPHT initiated a pilot project, with New York (NY) EPH, to expand PHIN-MS to bi-directionally exchange hospitalization data with other EPHT grantees and partners.

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND: The National EPHTN has identified Public Health Information Network's Messaging System (PHIN-MS) as a candidate data sharing transport mechanism among EPHT grantees and partners. PHIN-MS is a component of the Maine Nedss Base System – however the installed version is limited to exchanging information between CDC and Maine. Maine EPHT initiated a pilot project, with New York (NY) EPH, to expand PHIN-MS to bi-directionally exchange hospitalization data with other EPHT grantees and partners.

OBJECTIVES: Identify requirements for Maine to expand PHIN-MS usage to securely send and receive data with EPHT partners, including: formalizing partner agreements (technical considerations; licensing issues) and establishing the PHIN-MS Collaboration Protocol Agreement (software configuration standards; security).

METHODS: Tasks include assessing: the acceptability of Maine's operator id (a CDC product) for these data exchanges; EPHT's ability to establish a Collaboration Protocol Agreement with NY-EPHT; our ability to exchange data with NY-EPHT; the success of Maine's protocol for accepting data.

CHALLENGES: The principal challenge anticipated is the compatibility of the two operating systems (NY uses UNIX; Maine uses Windows) and PHIN-MS versions (NY: version 2.1; Maine: version 2.6). Other challenges may evolve around the placement of the product, space requirements for the data and administrative roles for auditing the success of each exchange.

CONCLUSIONS: PHIN-MS has extensive potential for EPHT data exchange. This pilot project will assess the feasibility and map the steps required for future data exchanges. It will provide documented successes and challenges, complete with lessons learned and risks involved for the National EPHTN.

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